1:Du Bois E-5 (1938-1939) 1944
OFS Alor OFS

144 Before going into detail about the nature of the Atimelang village complex, a few comments should be made on the physical type of its inhabitants. No generalizations are possible for the island as a whole. The Atimelangers are predominantly Oceanic Negroids although naturally strains of Oceanic Mongoloid blood may be detected. In any event, they cannot be thought of in terms of Indonesian populations.

● 142 Their physical composition has been studied by Dr. Bouwer,* and it is in part on his description that the next few statements are based. The average stature of males is about five feet one inch, that of females between four feet nine and four feet ten inches. Hair varies from wavy to kinky, skin color from light brown to black, and red pigmentation in hair and skin is detectable in many individuals. Noses are short and of medium width, heads are long, and faces are often pentagonal. A combination of features and nature suggests a pygmoid strain in many individuals.

161 There is no conclusive evidence that the population of Alor is increasing, although the government tax list shows an augmentation of about ten thousand in the last decade. It is quite probable that this represents only better census taking, not a true increase. But certainly the population is not decreasing; my own rather inadequate statistics from Atimelang indicate that four children per woman grow to adulthood.

165 This is more than enough to maintain the population level, despite a mortality rate of 40 per cent before adolescence. The excellent health

169 program instituted by the government has probably reduced the death rate; certainly smallpox epidemics no longer sweep the island as they once did. At present the most common diseases are dysenteries, respiratory infections, malaria, and yaws. The last, though seldom fatal, is extremely common in Atimelang, and few children escape the devastating skin lesions of its first stage. The possible effect on personality of these debilitating diseases, often suffered in acute form during childhood, is worth bearing in mind.

161 Atimelang is often called the Five Village district. It lies in large

162 part within the valley described above and has a relatively dense population. Within a radius of about one mile there are some six hundred people scattered among four major villages and their offspring hamlets. On the eastern side of the valley lies Atimelang and its two hamlets of Folafang and Feremaang, with a total population of approximately 180 inhabitants. Closely allied to Atimelang by intermarriage is Lawerika, the fifth village of the complex, with about 120 people. Its population is scattered through three hamlets lying on the different slopes of the

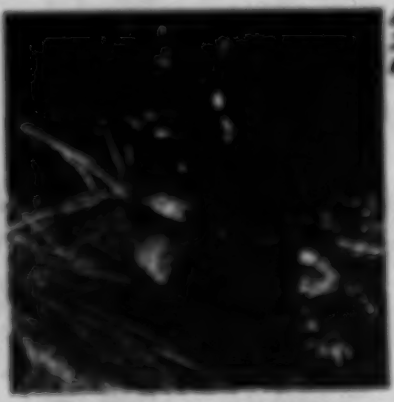
*D. Bouwer, *Bijdrage tot de anthropologie der Alorvolkeren* (Amsterdam, n.d.).

1:Du Bois E-5 (1938-1939) 1944
OFS Also OFS

Talkdora, the oldest woman in the village, with three orphaned grandchildren to support, works daily in the fields.

Pedafon's mother gathers the bean crop and his grandmother shells it.

Fatmé, the village scribe, receives heaps of cowrie for her luck. Now she bean-threshing mat.



An old grandmother spends a quiet morning at home weaving a basket.

(p. 32 II)

Theoretically, a brother is your strongest supporter.

A brother and sister, children of a successful financier.

[p. 32 A]

1:Du Bois E-5 (1938-1939) 1944
GF5 Alor GF5

Women privately gossiping over the value of a dowry payment that has just been brought to Ambeleng

Boys furnish a musical accompaniment on gongs and rattles to the communal labor involved in building a lineage house.

[p.33 w]

1:Du Bois E-5 (1938-1939) 1944
OF5 Alor OF5

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Rilpada the Seer.

Maiskia the Prophet.

Fanami Longhair, brother of the ruraskan.

[p. 32 B-2]

1:Du Bois Σ-5 (1938-1939) 1944
OF5 Alor OF5

142
302

Manifani, a financier from Dikimpe.

An Alouse youth.

A young widow much admired in Anmelang for her beauty.

A young girl whose teeth have just been blackened and filed. Her molars are occluded.

[p. 32 c-2]

142

Maïmouna the Financier's second wife and child.

143

Maïmouna the Financier's third wife, with a rice pestle.

[p. 30 E-2]

2: DuBois E-5 (1938-1939) 1941 OFS Alor OFS

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8
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28
516

[illegible] SPITBALLS, A [illegible] GET'S REWARD FOR [illegible] OF [illegible]
THE MEAT FOR THE DEITY IS BEING BOILED IN THE POT

142
415
359
291

A LITTLE ONE LEARNS HER ADULT TASK AS WATER CARRIER

[Facing p. 277]